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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0309  
March 13, 2018

Kirstjen M. Nielsen  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
Department of Homeland Security  
301 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Mal Stop 0150  
Washington, DC 20528-0150

Dear Secretary Nielsen:

I write to request a briefing on recent reports that Arizona's election websites or voter registration systems were compromised by Russia-linked agents in the months leading up to the 2016 elections and that there was a delay in appropriately informing state elections officials. I ask that this briefing include descriptions of current and future actions by the federal government, in coordination with the State of Arizona, to ensure the security of the 2018 elections, and that you share the information provided in the briefing with the office of the Arizona Secretary of State.

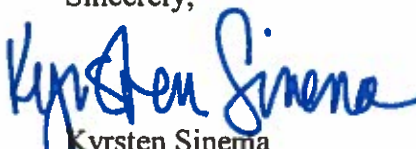
The Federal Bureau of Investigation informed Arizona officials in 2016 of credible cyber threats to an election database, and the Department of Homeland Security in 2017 stated that Arizona was targeted during the 2016 election. Recently, NBC News reported that the U.S. intelligence community developed "substantial evidence that state websites or voter registration systems in seven states [including Arizona] were compromised by Russian-backed covert operatives" but never informed the seven affected states. The Arizona Secretary of State has said she is aware of only two attempts to hack Arizona databases, the unsuccessful probe of the Gila County elections system and the contact with the Phoenix Public Library database.

Arizona's ability to protect the integrity and security of the elections it administers is limited if state leaders are not provided with timely information related to threats, attempts, and successful compromises of its election systems. We need assurances that the federal government is communicating effectively with Arizona, especially in regards to election integrity.

Although we have not seen evidence that election results were compromised or altered, any successful intrusion of our election systems violates Arizonans' privacy and undermines public confidence in our elections. Free and fair elections are foundational to our representative democracy and our national security, and we have a solemn obligation to work together to defend them from foreign attacks.

Thank you for your attention to this request. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

  
Kyrsten Sinema  
Member of Congress